

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJ: UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL'S REMARKS DRAW CRITICISM

1. ON NOV 15 IN SPEECH MADE AT CEREMONY MARKING INSTALLTION OF INTERVENOR OF SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY AND LETTERS AT UNIVERSITY OF BUENOS AIRES (UBA), UBA INTERVENOR ALBERTO OTTALAGANO MADE SEVERAL REMARKS WHICH HAVE DRAWN CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC CRITICISM FROM MEMBERS OF OPPOSITON POLITICAL PARTIES AND PRIVATE CRITICISM FROM MODERATE PERONISTS. OTTALAGANO'S STATEMENTS INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE CATHOLICS AND ARGENTINES ARE CONFRONTED WITH TEST OF FIRE--TO BE JUSTICIALISTAS OR MARXISTS. THE POLITICAL PARTIES THAT CALL THEMSELVES RADICALS, CONSERVATIVES, ETC. WILL BE MADE SUPERFLUOUS BECAUSE THOSE LIBERAL PARTIES WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN JUSTICIALISMO AND MARXISM. HERE AND NOW ONE HAS TO BE WITH CHRIST OR AGAINST CHRIST. WE, THE AUTHENTIC ARGENTINES, AFFIRM OUR BELIEF IN THE JUSTICIALISTA CODE WHICH IS IN ACCORD WITH OUR MOST PRECIOUS CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE.WE ARE THE ANTITHESIS OF LIBERALISM AND MARXISM. WE HAVE TRUTH AND REASONS, THE OTHERS DO NOT AND WE SHALL TREAT THEM AS SUCH. UNQUOTE.

2. OPPOSITION PARTY SPOKESMEN, NOT SURPRISINGLY, HARSHLY CRITICIZED OTTALAGANO'S REMARKS. THEY WERE LABELED AS FASCIST, AN INCREDICBLE STEP BACKWARDS MENTALLY AND AN

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ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION, AMONG OTHER THINGS. PERONIST

AND OTHER FREJULI BLOC MEMBERS, FOR THE MOST PART, DECLINED TO COMMENT PUBLICLY, BUT SOME HAVE PRIVATELY EXPRESSED CHAGRIN TO EMBOFFS. RADICAL PARTY DEPUTIES WILL REPORTEDLY ASK THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE REMARKS.

3. COMMENT: OTTALAGANO'S CURIOUS BLEND OF POLITICS, PATRIOTISM AND RELIGION IS, FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, VERY UP-SETTING TO OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBERS WHO VALUE THE PROCESS OF DIALOGUE BETWEEN GOA AND THEMSELVES. IT IS PRESUMABLY ALSO EMBARRASSING TO MANY WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT. THERE IS A GOOD DEAL OF SPECULATION THAT IN LONGER TERM OTTALAGANO'S PHILOSOPHY IS NOT THAT IMPORTANT. THE FEELING BEING THAT HE, EDUCATION MINISTER IVANISSEVICH AND OTHERS WERE BROUGHT IN TO CLEAN THE LEFTISTS OUT OF THE UNIVERSITIES AND THAT ONCE THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED, THEY WILL BE REPLACED BY A MORE MODERATE GROUP. FOR THE MOMENT THE MODERATES APPEAR TO BE HOLDING THEIR OWN IN THE GOVERNMENT AS A WHOLE. THE EDUCATION AREA WILL PROVIDE ONE MORE BAROMETER AS TO HOW FAR MRS. PERON WILL ALLOW THE HARD-LINERS TO GO.
MONTLLOR

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